

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-8 are now pending in this application.

The present application is a divisional of parent application Serial No. 09/214,277, filed March 1, 1999, which is filed to pursue subject matter not covered or specifically claimed in the allowed claims of the parent application.

Favorable action and early allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

**Conclusion**

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact T. Benjamin Schroeder (Reg. No. 50,990) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By Macy (110040,069)  
~~Mark S. Weiner~~, #32,181

BS  
MSW/TBS/bsh

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000